ning to Pakistan to desist from aiding Kashmiri terrorists, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have taken up the issue of Pak Aid to terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab with the Government of Pakistan; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Government have noted the reports about the contents of a letter written by the U.S. Ambassador in Pakistan to the so called President of Pakistan occupied Kashmir, Sardar Abdul Qayuum.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Pakistan Government maintains that it is not providing any physical and material aid to terrorists.

National Highways passing through Bihar

798 SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state·

(a) whether Government have formulated any proposal to improve the condition of national highways passing through Bihar;

(b) if so, the details of the highways identified, and

(c) the amount of money proposed to be spent by Government thereon during the next year?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Improvement of National Highways is a continuous process and works are taken up in a phased manner through Annual Plans

(b) The selected sections of National Highway numbers 2, 23, 28, 28A, 30, 31, 32 & 33 passing through Bihar have been included in the 1990-91 Annual Plan for improvement.

(c) The amount of money to be spent next year on National Highways in Bihar would depend on the overall allocations in the next year's budget

Applications pending for telephone connections in Bihar

799 SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state·

(a) what is the number of applicants waiting for telephone connections in Bihar, and

(b) the time by when they will be provided with phones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH) (a) 18335.

(b) The objectives of the Eighth Plan is to provide telephone on demand in exchanges of capacities below 5000 lines and to contain waiting list to one year in exchanges having a capacity of 5000 lines and above by the end of the Eighth Plan on the basis of present demand projections With these objectives, expansion plans are drawn for clearing the present waiting list progressively during the Eighth Plan period.

Myanmar Government in exile

800 SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that a Myanmar Government in-exile has been formed by the recently-elected Members of Parliament against the Army Junta; and

(b) if so, what is the response of Government in respect of supporting the democratic process and human rights in that country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir Government have seen reports about the formation of a "National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma" at Manerplaw (Myanmar). This "Government" includes some individuals who were elected to the Myanmar Parliament in the elections held there in May, 1990.

(b) Government have consistently expressed support for the democratic aspirations of the people of Myanmar and hope that the present Government there will soon transfer power to the elected representatives of the people.

Pak Prime Minister's views on the Shimla agreement

801 SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan Prime Minister has declined to follow the Shimla Agreement; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Government have seen reports in the Indian Express of 24 November, 1990 wherein the Pakistan Prime Minister is reported to have emphasised the importance of resolving all Indo-Pakistan issues, "within or without the Shimla Agreement" and that "nothing (including the Shimla Agreement) is binding on us". The Pakistan Foreign Office in a statement issued on 25 November 1990 clarified that the remark of Pakistan Prime Minister had been "incorrectly quoted" and that Pakistan remains committed to all its bilateral and international obligations including the Shimla Agreement

Militants training centres in Pakistan

802 SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to discuss with the Pakistan Government about the closing of training centres of militants functioning there;

(b) if so, by when and whether a large number of training centres for militants are still functioning in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir; and

(c) The details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA). (a) to (c) The Confidence Building Package proposed by India on 28 May, 1990 *inter alia*, called for the closure of all training camps for terrorists. The Government of Pakistan has claimed that it is not its policy to support terrorism directed against India in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. However, we continue to have evidence on the ground, of terrorists receiving training and other support from Pakistan. We shall therefore continue to raise this issue with the Pakistan Government whenever we have an opportunity to do so. The question of the closure of the training camps and of stopping all other support to terrorists has been taken up with the Pakistan Government in almost all political level interactions with Pakistan recently

Proposal for agreement with U.K. Government on curbing terrorism

803. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to sign an agreement with the U.K. Government to tackle terrorism in the country

(b) whether several U K based militants are supporting the militants in Punjab, and

(c) if so, to what extent the agreement would curb the funding of terrorists in Punjab and help create peaceful atmosphere?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) There is an on-going dialogue with the U K. Government on various ways to tackle terrorism No agreement has been finalised so far.